From: Paul Smith
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 10:01am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

There are many reasons why the microsoft settlement is currently to weak to move forward, most important is the interoperability of Independent Software Vendors(ISV) to create competing products that will be able to run the same software.

Section III.H.3. of the PFJ requires vendors of competing middleware to meet "reasonable technical requirements" seven months before new releases of Windows. We need to remove this limitation as Microsoft has the ability to change these requirements while the middleware will remain locked out.

Microsoft must unlock all Api's for its windows products, we must lift all unreasonable restrictions on the use of the released documentation.

And why is Microsoft only required to be fair to the top twenty(20) OEM's, thats just plain wrong, many small companies that offer competing products will be open for Microsoft's abuse!

We must stop Microsoft from discriminating against ISVs who ship Open Source applications or for applications running on competing operating systems.

Please make sure Microsoft will be a responsible business in the future, the agreement as it stands leaves many items open for Microsoft to continue its anticompetitive practices.

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